
Why Monitoring?

Under a pending federal program the sale and use of atrazine, metolachlor, simazine, alachlor, and cyanazine will be prohibited in New Hampshire unless the state has a plan for managing the use of these herbicides in a manner that will prevent ground water contamination.

This plan will have to be approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency or we stand to lose the use of these important weed control products.

For a plan to be approved it must have a monitoring component. Monitoring will show whether any of these pesticides are presently in our ground water, and will be the means by which we can track ground water quality in the future. The Division, therefore, has instituted a program of well monitoring.

What Will Happen?

Beginning in the summer of 1997, representatives from the Division of Pesticide Control will be visiting sites where these pesticides are used, to collect water samples and to map well locations.

In most cases this will involve little more than granting the Division access to a water spigot from which a sample can be drawn. We will also need to know something about the locations of any wells and their particulars of construction (i.e. type [dug, drilled, artesian?], age, depth, use [domestic, irrigation, livestock, etc.]], as well as information on recent pesticide applications.

The samples will be analyzed by the state laboratories, and the results will be provided to the well owner free of charge.

If there is a pesticide detection, the Division will work with you under our existing Site Management Rules to mitigate any contamination by the least restrictive means.

Why is This Important?

These five pesticides - ATRAZINE, METOLACHLOR, SIMAZINE, ALACHLOR, AND CYANAZINE - constitute about half the reported herbicide use in this state. Should they become unavailable, there are alternatives, but they are less effective and more expensive - translating to about a 1 to 1.5 million dollar loss per year to the agricultural community New Hampshire.

Unfortunately, these materials have a strong potential to leach into the ground water, and have caused significant contamination in many areas of the country - hence the federal program. Here in New Hampshire there do not seem to be any serious contamination problems (based on analyses of public water supplies), which we attribute to good compliance with the state's rules on pesticide use and storage. We believe that continued good management, which includes monitoring, will allow us to craft the most appropriate and least restrictive state management plan.

**Do You Use
Any
of the
Following
Herbicides?**

**ATRAZINE
METOLACHLOR
SIMAZINE
ALACHLOR
CYANAZINE**

If so, you should know that the continued use of these pesticides in this state will hinge upon our ability to monitor the quality of ground water. Without such monitoring these pesticides may become prohibited for use in New Hampshire.

The Division of Pesticide Control is requesting your cooperation in gathering water quality information by allowing us to collect well water samples.

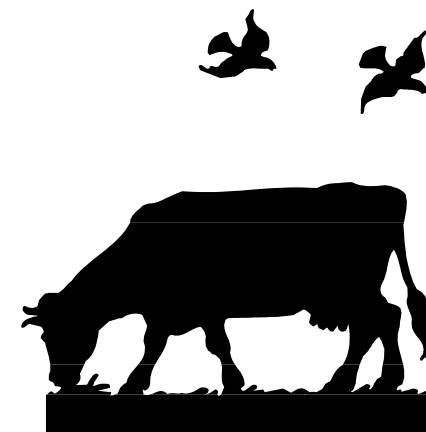
This brochure provides basic information.

**For more information contact Bob Wolff
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**PESTICIDE
MONITORING
PROGRAM**



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Food
Division of Pesticide Control
Concord, NH**
